



M1047/0090
7531

Emily Hampton-Berry <emilyberry@utah.gov>

Re: Numerous violations at US Oil Sands mine site

1 message

April Abate <aprilabate@utah.gov>

Mon, Aug 29, 2016 at 12:29 PM

To: Raphael Cordray <crphaelc@gmail.com>

Cc: Paul Baker <paulbaker@utah.gov>, Emily Berry <emilyberry@utah.gov>

Thank you. I've got it logged in as a complaint. I'll investigate.

Regards,
April

On Mon, Aug 29, 2016 at 12:05 PM, Raphael Cordray <crphaelc@gmail.com> wrote:

Raphael Cordray

Utah Tar Sands Resistance

Crphaelc@gmail.com

UtahTarSandsResistance@gmail.com

August 26, 2016

April Abate

aprilabate@utah.gov

RECEIVED

AUG 29 2016

Div. of Oil, Gas & Mining

re: USOS's PR Springs mine site UDOGM permit M0470090.

Dear April

I am writing to alert you of several issues at USOS's PR Springs mine site UDOGM permit M0470090.

Several significant violations and inconsistencies with the approved mine plan are currently occurring onsite.

There is daily mining and hauling activity without dust suppression

Us oil sands is proceeding to mine without dust suppression and this lack of any dust control is causing PR Canyon down wind to fill with dust.

They are doing earth moving and strip mine activities where debris is entering the air stream. There is very frequently strong winds on seep ridge and dust is spreading all day. Water trucks are not being used. No other dust controls are being applied.

There is frequently a nauseating smell of bitumen detected in PR Springs Canyon and the toxic off gassing from the many new tar piles is entering the air stream and can also be detected off site.

There is massive erosion occurring on the site.

The Mine drainage control plan shown on page 69 of the USOS NOI to revise large mining mining operations shows numerous straw waddles and erosion controls - none of which are in place at the USOS Pit 1 at PR Springs Utah

There is also a new and long bulldozed path from near Seep Ridge Road created between pit 1 and 2 that is NOT shown on the current mine plan. This bulldozed path appears to be intended to carry drainage water from near Seep Ridge Road down to a pond below the initial test pit and this bulldozed path is creating massive uncontrolled erosion.

The RECLAMATION BOND does not cover the reclamation of this long bull dozed path and without a proper reclamation bond USOS should be given a stop work order immediately. I ask you do this.

Also, there are several pieces of USOS old equipment and wastes bearing the former name of USOS - Earth Energy - which should be stored at the "Bone yard" inside of the processing plant site and NOT at the "man camp" where they are currently have been stored for several years now unused. The USOS "man camp" is improperly being used as a waste yard.

The USOS mine file also indicates that USOS will be obtaining permits and/or approval of the US EPA for the areas of the mine with in Indian country. There is no evidence that these permits have been acquired or that the appropriate best management practices are in place.

I ask DOGM order USOS to not operate the tar factory without an air, water, and toxic waste pollution permits from the USEPA.

I look forward to your response at my contact given above.

Regards,

Raphael Cordray,
Personally and for Utah Tar Sands Resistance

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April A. Abate
Environmental Scientist III
Utah Division of Oil, Gas, & Mining
O: [801-538-5214](tel:801-538-5214)
M: [801-232-1339](tel:801-232-1339)
Hours M-Th 7-5